

**Fairfax-Falls Church Local Human Rights Committee
Meeting Minutes**

October 25, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.
Pennino Building / Human Services Center
12011 Government Center Parkway
Room 403

Committee Members in Attendance: Loretta Redelman (Chair), Wendy Keating, Thomas Williams

Committee Members Excused: Judy Regner, Betty Gardner

Others in Attendance: Betsy Schatz (Langley), Sean McGinnis (Hartwood), Natasha Winn (Hartwood), Jim Copeland (APTS), Nicole Numbers (APTS), Julie Allen (CRI), Edwina Jones (CRI), June Tangney, PhD (GMU), Shilpa Krishnan, MA (GMU), Rebecca Duckworth, MA (GMU), Joan Rodgers (ADS), Lisa Potter (ADS), Tim Simmons (HR Advocate), Lisa Blecker (LHRC Support)

The meeting convened at 1:05 p.m. Minutes from the September 13th meeting were approved as submitted.

I. Annual Summary

A summary of the annual human rights activities were presented by Betsy Schatz for Langley Residential Support Services and by Sean McGinnis and Natasha Winn for Hartwood Foundation, Inc. The committee requested Langley provide a report back regarding individuals living in group homes who have some unsupported time and whether these individuals know how to respond in emergencies such as if there was a fire in the home. The committee requested Hartwood provide the outcome of the APS investigation regarding the Logisticare driver from the incident dated 1/4/06. The committee also recommended staff be encouraged to be more assertive when taking individuals to the doctors to get information about the medications prescribed such as possible side effects, possible drug interactions, purpose and desired effect, etc.

II. Executive Session to Review Client Issues

A motion was made, seconded and voted on to move into Executive Session to review client issues at 2:20 p.m. and the Committee came out of Executive Session at 3:05 p.m. Two behavior plans were reviewed and accepted for three months. Recommendations were made for one individual's team to look at other possible substitutes for nicotine withdrawal and cotton gloves to be used as an emergency intervention (with a time limit) for the SIB while exploring other ways during day hours for the individual to occupy his hands. The LHRC also recommended either a second opinion be obtained or a follow-up visit with the dermatologist to medically pursue the individual's condition. An update will be provided to the LHRC for the November meeting. Eight quarterlies one which

included a medication change were accepted for three months without any recommendations and another medication change was also accepted.

The advocate was asked to seek more clarity from the State regarding the use of PRN's in ICF's such as Ativan for agitation and whether medications prescribed like valium for pre-medical procedures require review.

III. Committee Business Session

The committee reported out on its visits to PRS and Crisis Care programs. Thomas Williams will report out on the revised regulations for LifeLine of Virginia at the next meeting and Tim Simmons will get back with Lifeline to give them this update.

The LHRC received an application form. An interview with this individual will be set up.

IV. Advocate's Report

Tim Simmons handed out a copy of the quarterly newsletter from the SHRC. He also mentioned the training that was held for LHRC members on 10/21/06 at NVTC on the present regulations and a quick overview of some of the proposed changes. The training went over how LHRC's are to function as a group; restraints, seclusion and time out; and restrictions on freedoms of everyday life. Participants found the training very informative.

V. GMU Research Request

June Tangney, PhD from George Mason University came to discuss a longitudinal study that started in 2001 through funding by NIDA of inmates in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. As part of the study, she was requesting access to ADS records for 500 inmates who voluntarily signed agreements prior to any involvement with Alcohol and Drug Services. She shared information with the LHRC and answered questions. The Chair read the requirements for research from the Blue Book and the committee expressed concerns about there being no end date on the consent forms when a one-year limit is needed and questioning whether informed consent was obtained since the consent forms were signed prior to the inmates receiving treatment with ADS. The LHRC stated they would continue the discussion at the November meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for: **Wednesday, November 8th**, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 836 A of the Pennino Building, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax County Government Center Complex.